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DELAWARE

ASC

MAR 13 1957

FARM NEWS

NEWSLETTER

March 4, 1957

MARCH 8 - LAST DAY FOR CORN ACREAGE RESERVE SIGN-UP

March 8 is the last day to sign an agreement for Corn Acreage Reserve. It is also the last day for anyone who has signed-up to change or cancel his agreement. The regulations under which the Acreage Reserve program operates permits the changing or canceling of agreements only through the sign-up period. In general, after March 8 the only agreement changes permitted will be those necessary to correct errors or to designate a different acreage when the originally designated land does not meet the program requirements. Many farmers have indicated on their agreements that they wish to put a larger acreage than the initial farm limit in the Acreage Reserve. These farmers will be sent a written notice after the close of the sign-up period, March 8, if it is possible to accept the extra acreage. Nine Hundred and Forty Delaware farmers have already signed Corn Acreage Reserve Agreements, placing 13,018 acres in the program. There are 3,615 additional acres indicated if there is money available after March 8.

APRIL 15 - DEADLINE FOR CONSERVATION RESERVE SIGN-UP

The 1957 Conservation Reserve sign-up period has been extended from March 15 to April 15 due to the extra work which the county ASC committees have had with their ACP and Corn Acreage Reserve work recently. The Conservation Reserve part of the Soil Bank is a long-term measure to adjust production and increase the conservation of soil, water, forest, and wildlife resources in the nation. Through this program, farmers can receive substantial Government assistance as they take land out of production to conserve their farm resources and rehabilitate worn-out or eroded land.

1956 CORN PRICE SUPPORT AVAILABLE UNTIL MARCH 31

In Delaware loan and purchase agreements will be available through March 31 for the 1956 corn crop. Unlike price support programs for most of the "basic" crops, the corn loan and purchase agreements will be available to all growers of the 1956 corn crop. The top support, averaging \$1.50 per bushel nationally, \$1.65 in Delaware, is available to growers of the 1956 corn crop who complied either with their farm acreage allotments or with Soil Bank corn base acreage requirements. Growers who did not comply with either allotment or Soil Bank corn base acreage requirements are eligible for support at an average of \$1.25 per bushel nationally, \$1.40 per bushel in Delaware. Corn to be eligible for loan in the month of March must test not more than 19 percent moisture.

1957 SHORN WOOL

For the 1957 marketing year (beginning April 1, 1957, and ending March 31, 1958) the price level which has been determined to meet the requirements of the National Wool Act of 1954 is 62 cents per pound of shorn wool, grease basis. This is the same price as was set for the 1956 marketing year. To be eligible for incentive payment, the applicant must be the producer, the wool must have been shorn in the continental United States on or after January 1, 1955, and must have been marketed within the 1957 marketing year. The application for payment on account of shorn wool shall be supported by the original sales documents for the wool sold. The rate of payment for unshorn lambs (pulled wool) is based on the same price level in relationship to the support price for shorn wool. Thirty days' ownership applies to both shorn wool and unshorn lambs.

1958 ACP DEVELOPMENT MEETINGS

Each county ASC committee will sponsor a meeting with other farm leaders, including the community committeemen, sometime in March to discuss ways of improving and developing an Agricultural Conservation Program for 1958. They will review the 1957 handbook and recommend any changes or any new practices which they think may improve an Agricultural Conservation Program for another year. Their suggestions will be passed on to the State ASC committee who will discuss them with the State agriculture leaders. The State committee's suggestions will then be passed to the Agricultural Conservation Program Service of the United States Department of Agriculture with the hope that they will be able to include them in the National ACP Handbook.

SPRING IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

Now is the time to:

Get ready for maximum crop production and profits in 1957 by:

1. Repairing all used equipment and buying additional items needed.
2. Complete plans for crops to be grown on each field and on the farm including the ordering of seed.
3. Enrolling in the Soil Bank Corn Acreage Reserve by March 8 and the Conservation Reserve for other cropland by April 15, 1957.
4. Signing up in the ACP - to assure maximum conservation of both crop and pasture land including that set aside for the Acreage Reserve part of the Soil Bank program.
5. Having soil samples analyzed to aid in determining lime and fertilizer needs - ordering the material and arranging for delivery of these as soon as practical.

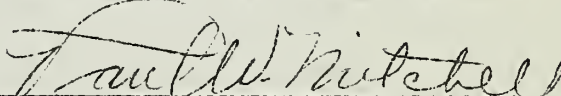
An important thing to remember in planning for maximum production is that any lime deficiency must be corrected before maximum returns can be obtained from the fertilizer used. Most crops grow best on soils that are neutral or only slightly acid - soils having a pH of value of at least 6.0 and up to 7.0. Long-time cropping and the continued use of acid forming fertilizers cause acid soil conditions resulting in reduced crop production. To offset this, farmers should develop a definite liming program especially for legume crops, whether for hay, pasture or for soil improvement and conservation of the soil.

Doing these things now will assure greater production of better quality crops and an improved soil for the future.

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FOR THE DELAWARE ASC STATE COMMITTEE

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